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The Newsletter of the *Naturist Action Committee* and the *Naturist Education Foundation*

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Lots of New Items Available at NEFRL

NEF Research Library patrons are in for a treat! There's a lot of good stuff to check out.

If you're not a patron yet, joining is FREE and Digital Loans are all FREE. Check out the NEFRL page at: <https://naturisteducation.org/programs/neftrl>

The list of DVD's below is the last of them. Some were problematic and needed a new approach. Others, mostly the "Something Weird Video" ones, are donations from my personal collection. By making the donation, they are better quality and reduce the number of VHS tapes I need to convert. NEFRL already had VHS copies of all of those.

For the VHS tapes, I've been able to streamline the process with more helpful scripts. I added another computer to handle the heavy number crunching and a second SSD storage drive to handle about 10 VHS tapes at a time. Remember that VHS captures can be 200 gigabytes each. See the July 2024 *Pages of History* for all the details on how I'm preserving these VHS tapes.

But wait, there's more! How about a scholarship opportunity for the younger researchers? And a whole new category of items are available to anyone (patron or not) who has a research interest and makes a request. Dive deeper into this newsletter to see what's new.




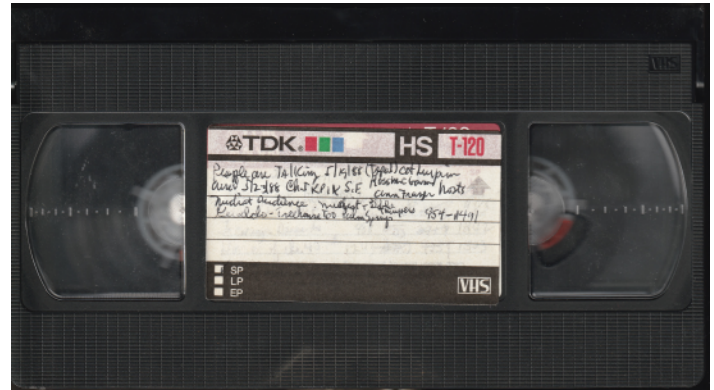
DVD Releases

Asset Tag	Title	Year	Producer
video650	The Algarve – Naturally	n.d.	Parafotos Film Productions
video328	The Notorious Bettie Page (CC and bonus content available)	2006	HBO Films
video323	Diary of a Nudist and The Naked Venus (bonus content available)	(1961) 2002	Something Weird Video
video221	Elysia / The Unashamed	(1933) 2006	Something Weird Video
video229	Garden of Eden	(1954) 2007	Something Weird Video
video231	Gentlemen Prefer Nature Girls	(1963) 2003	Something Weird Video
video236	Have Figure, Will Travel	(1963) 2006	Something Weird Video
video241	Les Textiles (with English subtitles)	2005	APVDVD
video252	My Bare Lady	(1963) 2007	Something Weird Video
video256	Naked Complex	(1964) 2006	Something Weird Video
video268	Nude on the Moon / Blaze Starr Goes Nudist	(1960/1962) 2006	Something Weird Video
video271	Nudes on Tiger Reef	(1965) 2007	Something Weird Video
video330	Sex and Buttered Popcorn: vol. 3 Elysia and The Road to Ruin	1934	Kit Parker Video
video295	Shangri-La	(1961) 2007	Something Weird Video

Any volunteers?

We're looking for someone to write summaries for the films. Interested? Contact us at library@naturisteducation.org.

Velez, Edin, 2003, DVD
"Chasing the Sun", Naturist Education Foundation
 Summary: Soon! 



VHS Releases

Asset Tag	Last Name	First Name	Video Title	Year
video518	Cooney	Michael	Celebrate the Freedom of the Naturist Lifestyle	2000
video526	Cooney	Michael	Tropical Naturism	1997
video545	Flux	David	Let Yourself Be Free	1987
video547	Flux	David	Welcome to Our World	1987
video615	Pitman	John	Let's Go Naked! British Broadcasting Corporation	1979
video612	O'Brien	Pat	Nude Recreation is Good Business	1996
video617	Public Broadcasting Service		"Is Nudity God's Will?" Debates Debates (Episode 25), HBO Studio Productions	1997
video618	Rochlin	Sheldon	Paradise Now: The Last Performance	1970
video675	Velez	Edin	It's a Nude World	1987
video623	Rousset	Olivia	"The Naturists" Only in America	n.d.
video804	Travel Channel		Adventure Crazy (Desert Shadows Inn)	n.d
video501	Allen	Tim	What Do You Say to a Naked Lady?	(1984) 1995
video549	Funt	Allen	What Do You Say to a Naked Lady?	(1970) 2000
video798	Skinny Dipping Productions		The Sensual Art of Body Painting	1997
video663	Sterling	Brian	Shooting the Nude in the Nude	1993
video662	Sterling	Brian	All Nude Workout 2	1993
video801	Stubbs	Kenneth	Erotic Massage	1989
video670	Velez	Edin	(Best of) Skinny Dipping	1986
video673	Velez	Edin	Going Skinny Dipping	1990
video677	Velez	Edin	Joy of Skinny Dipping	1992
video678	Velez	Edin	Natural Summer	1988
video679	Velez	Edin	Skinny Dipping	1981
video534	Dana	Jonathan and	Sandstone	1974
video667	Tiffenbach	Joe	Campfire Video's Nude Dudes	1992
video331	Trammell	Sam	Going to California S1E09: The Naked and the Nude	2001
video770	Lupin Lodge		Lupin Club Open House (KNTV 7/11/2007)	2007
video769	Lupin Lodge		Lupin 1985 News Clippings	1985
video771	Lupin Lodge		Lupin "People Are Talking" (5/18/1988)	1988
video741	Geraldo		Geraldo 2/3/1989	1989
video799	Squaw Mountain Ranch		Squaw Mountain Ranch 1996 Music Festival	1996
video714	Central Florida Naturists		Playalinda - Protecting the Rights of Citizens	n.d.
video742	Glen Eden		Just a Minute Away	n.d
video575	Landman	David	DeAnza Springs Resort	1999
video515	Carver	Randy	Cypress Cove Nudist Resort: Your Place in the Sun in Sunny Central Florida	1991
video610	Nieto	Dona	Striptease to Save the Trees	2001
video604	MacFarland	Charles	The Goddess of the Earth	n.d.
video708	Ball	David	Freedom Denmark	1992
video807	Discover the	Caribbean Co.	Caribbean's Topless Beaches	1995
video813	Hotchkin	Les and Jan	The Bare Facts of Oz	1990
video814	Fun Vacations		The Beaches of St. Martin	n.d
video815	Velez	Edin	Here Comes the Sun	1986
video808	Anonymous		Aussie Nude Beaches #1	1995
video809	Anonymous		Aussie Nude Beaches #2	1992
video810	Anonymous		Aussie Beach Babes	1994

Scholarship Available



The Education Foundation has felt the love of the AANR members and the Naturist Education Foundation!

In addition to the three annual

AANR-EF scholarships, we have teamed up together for the second annual \$2,000 joint scholarship between

the AANR-Education Foundation

and the

Naturist Education Foundation

open to all AANR members and those affiliated with the NEF!

Application documents can be found at the website aanr-ef.com.

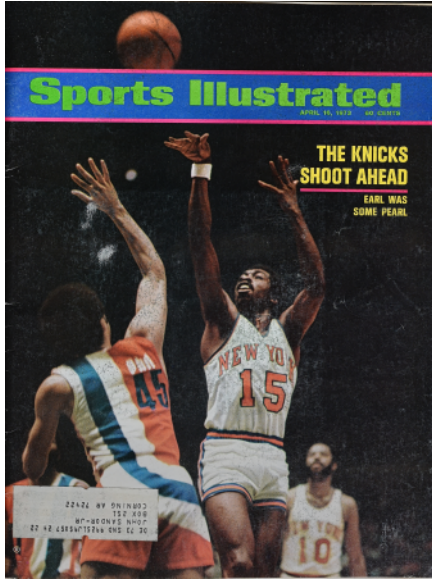
The deadline for submission is May 1, 2024.

Now it is time to share with your loved ones the availability of these scholarships!

The AANR Education Foundation
1703 North Main Street
Kissimmee, FL 34774-3396



Nudist-Related Articles from Non-Nudist Magazines



Back in the day, articles on nudists appeared in some very random places. For example, and available now, is a *Sports Illustrated* article from April 1973 talks about the Olympics at Olive Dell Ranch and nudism in general.

Another example, which will be available later this year, is *Flying* magazine's October 1950 issue with an article on Sunny Rest Lodge's airstrip in Pennsylvania. The author is Donald Johnson, a name some may recognize.

Not to be confused with NEFRL's 16,000 nudist magazines, the non-nudist magazine collection takes up two large shelves and can fit in four banker's boxes. One of those boxes has been scanned, and an amazing volunteer has been cataloging and summarizing each of these. A huge "thank you!" to Matthew McDermott -- see his website at writenude.com.



See the full catalog of non-nudist magazines by visiting: <https://naturisteducation.org/programs/nefrl/catalogs/> Articles are already scanned to "fair use" sizes and are available. Make a request for a specific item by emailing library@naturisteducation.org.
The following is just a sample of the 79 articles currently available:

Mr. Dec 1981

Article: Nude Couples Disco, by Paul Stewart

Summary: Article on the Ponderosa Sun Club's Nude Couples Disco Contest. Presented in a highly sexualized way, describing how the couples' dancing leads to arousal, and eventually public expressions of sexuality.

Newsweek Aug 1938

Article: Coney: Humans, Heat, and Humidity, by (uncredited)

Summary: Two-page pictorial on Coney Island. One photo shows the entrance to an attraction with signage saying "Nudist Sun Field - For Men - For Women". Another sign states "New Stauch Baths". Caption reads "Step inside and get 100% benefit of the sun!"

People Today Apr 1956

Article: The Queen of the Nudists: Diane Weber Covers Up for People Today, by (uncredited)

Summary: Pictorial profile of Diane Weber. Numerous clothed (or nude and obscured) photos of Weber. Text focuses on her physically, including her age and bust and hip measurements. Quotes ASA spokesman describing nudism.

Real Men Dec 1957

Article: Nudism - Does it Stand for Health - or Vice?, by Janice Kenworthy, Arthur N Farby, MS

Summary: Two-part article from two different perspectives: "I am a nudist" and "Nudism is immoral". Kenworthy describes nudism, its benefits, and the desexualized environment at nudist clubs; also responds to those who think nudism is about exhibitionism or a cult. Farby claims to have studied over 7000 nudists, and has found that nudism inevitably leads to nymphomania, exhibitionism, and many other crimes.

Real Men Mar 1967

Article: Nudist Parties Every Saturday Night, by Norton McVickers

Summary: Thinly disguised fantasy dressed up as an account of a wild "nudist party". Claims that there are weekly nudist parties that are actually large swinger gatherings.

Saturday Night Jun 1989

Article: Travelling Light, by Victor Janoff

Summary: A look at Cypress Cove resort in Florida, specifically at the Canadian snowbirds who winter there. Mentions Terry Hill, president of the FCN, and Canadian naturist activist Petra Scheller. Notes the racism and homophobia common in nudism.

Picture Scope Mar 1956

Article: Scope Goes to a Nudist Wedding, by Mike Ryan

Summary: Pictorial about a nudist wedding at Colorado Sunshine Club. Very positive view of nudism. Notes that Evelyn West (a well-known burlesque dancer) was in the wedding party, and Earl Wilson (a famous New York columnist) attended.

Sports Illustrated Apr 1973

Article: For Each a Place in the Sun, by Jerry Kirshenbaum

Summary: A look at nudism in the USA starting from the Nude Olympics at Olive Dell Ranch. Examines the state of nudism as a movement, and the ASA as an organization.

Times News Idaho Aug 1970

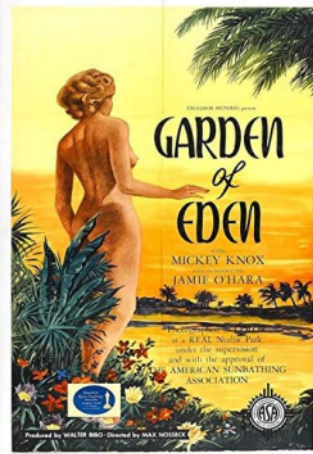
Article: Pope Condemns Public Nudity Around World, by (uncredited)

Summary: Brief newspaper article describing Pope Paul VI attacking the "spread of nudism and the exaltation of sexualism in public", apparently in response to the International Naturist Conference at Orpington, England.

Naturism's Big Break

By Olaf Danielson

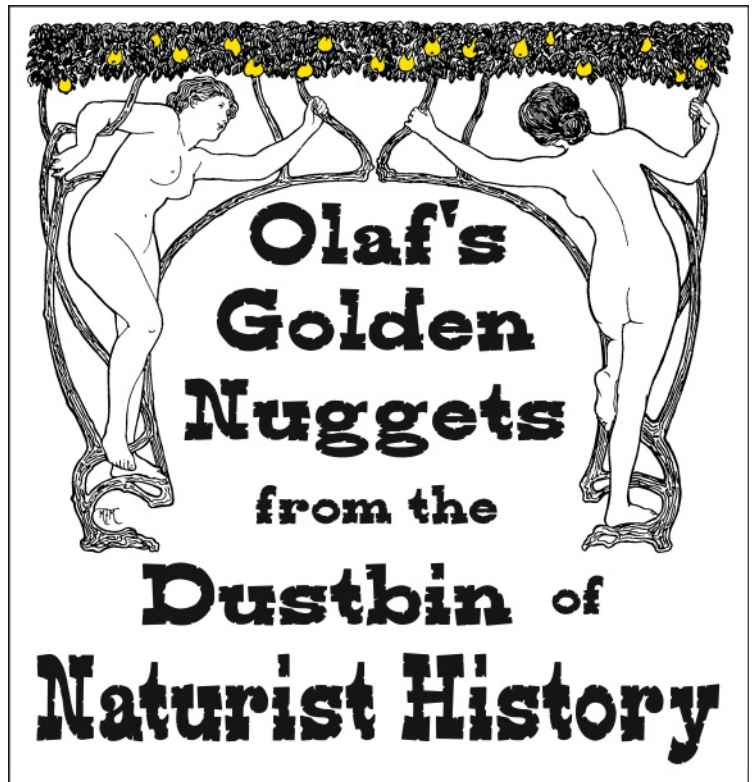
Back this last November, when I was sifting through the nuggets of the Lake Como Family Nudist Resort's archive at their bi-annual (or so) history showing, I was "entertained" by the continuous running of the movie "Garden of Eden." It can be easy to insult this 1954 film made by Excelsior Pictures supported by the A.S.A. Mark Storey in his 2003 book "Cinema au Naturel" places this movie as the first of a new age of exploitation films but also states that many saw and perceived it as somewhat different. The film was shot largely at Lake Como during the winter season of 1953-1954, and first appeared in cinemas in August, 1954 and then due to censorship locally, was released in staggered premieres from Quebec to California.



It was however, after reviewing Lake Como records of the era, and finishing up the history of Pasco County nudism, that I came to the conclusion that the singular most important marketing tool that happened to nudism in the last half of the 20th Century was that film. Mr. Storey likes to discuss how the movie was received by existing nudists, but what the movie ended up creating was "aspirational" nudists. Couples went to the movie once it was allowed to be seen (no easy process) by various courts and then they wanted to go to the place that they saw on the big screen. They just did not want to go nude, they wanted to go nude at Lake Como.

Starting shortly thereafter, the telephone at Lake Como started to ring. Letters begging to be accepted came to their mailbox. One must understand that in 1954, Como was a rather small place. It had grown slowly from around 30 members in 1949 to just a little over 200 by 1953. It had only been mentioned a few times in the nudist press and they were not advertising at all. Its footprint on the lake was just 9 acres, the rest being an orange orchard that was on the other side of the fence. The old Leonard House served as the overnight lodging for visitors and there were less than a half dozen rooms. Food was served communally in the cafeteria and there was primitive camping. Most of the sunning took place on the dock.

It was not even like the members of Lake Como were hot on the idea of a film being shot there. They were offered \$500 to use the location but that did not seem tempting enough. Not even the trustee of the land trust that owned the property, Ari Brubaker, was on board,



but reluctantly the membership of Florida Athletic and Health signed on. Como did not have much money during these days and the only way they could keep and pay a caretaker was a rather novel agreement where the caretaker would receive 50% of any profit, otherwise it was volunteer. The land trust that owned the property received 1/3 and kept any orange sales. The non-profit, Florida Athletic, got the remaining 1/6. After the movie came out, soon, the two hundred member group

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[A 1955 Jim Cameron photo of life at Lake Como from ANRL archives.]

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exploded to 800 members in 1954-1955. The caretaker's income swelled to a tidy \$2,500 and the telephone kept ringing. By the next season, membership was 1,150 and the volunteer group was being overwhelmed. Como Estates, the land trust, took their windfall and bought 60 acres to the west and also 40 more to the southwest for possible future development since there was now a clamoring for a place for housing. The club also needed cabins, a motel, better camping, and an enlarged kitchen, but with the caretaker agreement sucking so much money out of revenue, that problem reached a head before the others could be addressed.

Rapid uncontrolled growth is not always good, and the caretaker decided to try to exploit the position. Judging by letters that survive between the caretaker and "Bru" the trustee (also a title attorney), let us just say that what happened seemed to evolve into a plot that would intrigue TV's "Columbo" for now. Sadly, all stressed out about the telephone ringing, overcrowding, and this problem, "Bru" died of a massive heart attack in early 1956 just as the club went over 1,100 members. Como then bought a used army barracks for a motel, and added other cabins and doubled the size of their kitchen that year. It

would take just two more years for membership to double in size again becoming the largest club in North America, all due to people watching the movie, "Garden of Eden."

As it appears, Lake Como could not even handle all of the growth in nudism. The movie directly led to three other venues in Pasco County: Sunshine Beach Club, Dupree Gardens / the Island, and Meadowbrook, all evolving by 1959, and it quite likely also led to most new clubs elsewhere that formed in the 1957-1963 period as far away as Minnesota, Michigan, and even the Hadley's developing Cypress Cove. "Aspirational nudists" who saw the movie came to Lake Como in the winter and then wanted to have a place to go nude back home up north during the summer.

With all of this in place, Excelsior Pictures arrived back at Lake Como in 1961 offering another \$500 to film a sequel. Due to relaxing censorship, they thought they could even get a more realistic flavor of nudism at Lake Como. Unfortunately, Art Cotterill had just been arrested for violating Pasco County's new nudist licensing laws and the club was busy fighting that in court. The club politely declined the movie

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offer and after the case was thrown out in the State Supreme Court the club was not approached again about it. One wonders what might have been.

One also wonders what would have happened had this movie been shot in California or in New Jersey? Would naturism's explosive growth of the "Greatest Generation" with their baby-boomer children occurred? Maybe it would have grown elsewhere? The world of what ifs and might have beens dot the history of the world. By 2025 standards, "Garden of Eden" can strike one as lacking and not surviving the test of time. However, when you watch "Garden of Eden" again, look at it more of the marketing tool that it became and not as a form of entertainment, and try to see how new couples that survived World War II and were now stuck in the middle of the Cold War could be influenced by it to take off their clothing and head to Florida for a vacation.

[NEF Library patrons can view this unique piece of film history by requesting "video229".]



[A promotional postcard for the movie, from a larger set (18?) From Heritage Auctions.]

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Newsletters provide you with original content about:

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NaturistAction.org/donate

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